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CURRENT LITERATURE.

MINOR NOTICES.

C. H. ROBISON, instructor in biology in the high school of Oak Park, Illinois, has published a pamphlet entitled "Outlines for field studies of common plants" that deserves attention. It is the result of a large and successful experience in such work with pupils of high school age. The price is 25 cents, and copies can be obtained by addressing the author.—J. M. C.

W. L. JEPSON[1] has published a school flora for the Pacific coast, a companion book to Nelson's *Key to Rocky mountain flora* and Coulter's *Analytical key to flowering plants* for the northeastern states. Of all these areas perhaps Professor Jepson's was the most difficult to treat in the selective way, since it comprises three very dissimilar botanical regions. However, no one is better fitted to have made this selection than the author, and the descriptions show the great personal familiarity of the field student.—J. M. C.

THE SEVENTH PART of the *Catalogue of Canadian plants* has just appeared. The sixth part was published in 1892, and contained a list of the Canadian mosses. The present part contains the liverworts and lichens. The liverworts number 196 species, and the lichens 614. An extensive "Addendum to Part VI" (138 pp.) is also published, bringing up to date "our knowledge of American mosses north of the United States." Professor Macoun is to be congratulated upon the persistent way in which this very valuable catalogue is being pushed to its completion.—J. M. C.

THE VOLUME OF the *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* for 1901, just issued, contains the following botanical papers: Flora of Eagle lake and vicinity, by H. W. CLARK; The vegetation of abandoned rock quarries, by MEL T. COOK; Contributions to the flora of Indiana, by STANLEY COULTER; Effect of the composition of the soil upon the minute structure of plants, by H. B. DORNER; Correlation of forestry and the sciences, by W. H. FREEMAN; A study of the histology of the wood of certain species of pines, by KATHERINE E. GOLDEN; The germinative power of the conidia of *Aspergillus Oryzae*, by MARY F. HILLER; A collection of myxomycetes, by F. MUTCHLER; Spore resistance of loose smut of wheat to formalin and hot water, and Some additions to the flora of Indiana, by WILLIAM STUART; Forestry in Indiana (Presidential address), by M. B.

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[1] JEPSON, WILLIS LINN, A school flora for the Pacific coast. vi + 96. New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1902.

THOMAS; Notes on apple rusts, and Notes on the genus Stemonitis, by H. H. WHETZEL; The plant ecology of Winona lake, by LUCY YOUSE. The secretary of the Academy is John S. Wright, Indianapolis, Ind.—J. M. C.

NOTES FOR STUDENTS.

STUDENTS OF STEM ANATOMY will be interested in a recent paper of Solms-Laubach[2] upon the branching of *Isoetes lacustris*. The occurrence of a large number of branching specimens of unusual luxuriance and size, in a lake visited by the author in 1897, led him to a detailed study of the stem and a review of the literature upon the subject.—FLORENCE M. LYON.

TOBLER[3] finds that the thallus of one of the Rhodomelaceae, namely *Dasya elegans*, breaks down into single cells and cell-groups under certain conditions, and that these cells retain their vitality and finally develop new thalli, after the manner of the process which occurs so often in the Conjugatae and Confervoideae. The exact conditions under which this breaking down occurs were not worked out, but the author is sure the active stimulus is not one of increase in concentration of the external solution.

Observation that the ultimate branches of *Bryopsis plumosa* fall off and exhibit a marked power of growth somewhat similar to that just described, and that they sometimes form long siphonaceous tubes much resembling those of Vaucheria, has been made by Wright[4] and recorded in a recent note. —B. E. LIVINGSTON.

TWO FUNGUS DISEASES of the white cedar (*Cupressus thyoides*) are described in a recent paper by Harshberger.[5] These are caused by *Gymnosporangium biseptatum* Ellis, and *G. Ellisii* (Berk.) Farlow, both of which grow in the wood of the cedar. The author discusses the normal structure of the cedar wood, paying special attention to the number of tracheids in the various annual rings, and the conditions which influence their development. The influence of the growth of the fungus mycelia in the stems is evidenced by the formation of swellings, which show a large increase in the number of tracheids and increased activity of the phellogen. In the swellings caused by *G. biseptatum*, many of the tracheids appear to be plugged by a substance which the author calls "fungus gamboge." A detailed description of the structure of the swellings, the mycelia, and a consideration of the relation of the host cells and the hyphae follow.—H. VON SCHRENK.

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[2] SOLMS-LAUBACH, H. GRAF ZU, *Isoetes lacustris*, seine Verzweigung und sein Vorkommen in den Seen des Schwarzwaldes und der Vogesen. Bot. Zeit. **60**: 179–206. *pl.* 7. 1902.

[3] TOBLER, F., Zerfall und Reproductionsvermögen des Thallus einer Rhodomelacee. Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesell. **20**: 357–365. 1902.

[4] WRIGHT, E. P., Note on *Bryopsis plumosa*. Notes from Bot. School Trin. Coll. Dublin. **1**: 174–175. 1902.

[5] HARSHBERGER, JOHN W., Two fungus diseases of the white cedar. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1902: 461.